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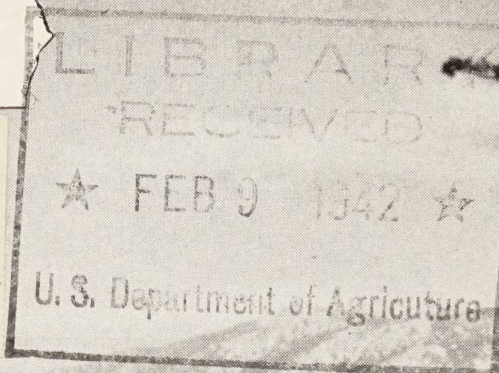
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ELDORADO NATIONAL FOREST



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Timber—Water—Forage—Recreation

TIMBER

THE *Eldorado National Forest* contains over 5 billion feet of merchantable timber belonging to the Government. The privately owned timber, which amounts to 8 billion feet, is being extensively cut. The Government timber is located at elevations between 3,500 and 5,500 feet, in the mixed conifer type, mainly on the Silver Fork-Alder Creek drainage of American River and in the Georgetown Divide region between the South and Middle Forks of American River. Forest Service cruises show that this timber is of excellent quality and that it has a large percentage of sugar pine, one of the most valuable of commercial timber species.

FORAGE

The *Eldorado Forest* annually produces sufficient forage for about 9,000 head of cattle and horses and 18,000 sheep and goats. Allotments of range are so made as to utilize all the forage. But the number of stock grazed is limited to the carrying capacity of the range, and the animals are so handled and distributed as to insure against overgrazing and injury to the forage plants. Forage and grazing allotments are also regulated so that there may be sufficient feed for deer within the four State game refuges on the forest. Pastures for tourists' pack stock are located along frequented mountain trails and are fenced.

WATER

The main river systems of the forest are the Middle and South Forks of American River, the Rubicon River, and the North Fork of Mokelumne River.

The present installed capacity of the hydroelectric projects on the *Eldorado Forest* amounts to approximately 100,000 horsepower. Water is stored for power and irrigation in 6 lakes and reservoirs, and the Forest Service has received applications covering the development of 8 additional reservoirs. The drainage basins of the Middle and South Forks of the American and Mokelumne Rivers are being used at the present time for hydroelectric power. Future developments will include a more intensive utilization of the water resources from this region.

The Mokelumne River, which has its source in the *Eldorado* and *Stanislaus National Forests*, supplies annually 11½ billion gallons of domestic and industrial water to 9 cities and towns, with a total population of more than 500,000 persons, in the east San Francisco Bay region. Part of this water will be diverted by a pipe line to San Francisco, to serve as an emergency supply for that city. The storage basin for this great system is the Lancha Plana Reservoir, completed in 1930, which has a capacity of 230,000 acre-feet. At the Pardee dam of this reservoir a hydroelectric plant with a capacity of 16,000 horsepower has been built.

Streams rising in this forest also furnish water to irrigate many thousands of acres of land in the Sacramento Valley and for the domestic use of numerous towns and settlements of that region.

All these important uses of water are vitally dependent upon the preservation of the forest cover, which regulates the run-off from the drainage basins of these streams.

RECREATION

The Lake Tahoe region of the *Eldorado Forest*, which includes hundreds of small lakes besides Lake Tahoe itself, is one of the most

Woods Lake.—Situated about 1 mile south of the Carson Pass Highway, near the summit. A fine, small camp; 10 stoves, 12 tables, piped water. Supplies at Silver Lake, Twin Lakes, or Jackson. Elevation 8,500 feet.

Twin Lake.—Located 60 miles east of Jackson on the Carson road; 6 stoves, 10 tables and benches. Water at camp. Supplies at Lake. Elevation 7,900 feet.

Lake Tahoe

Bay View.—Overlooks Emerald Bay on the south end of Lake Tahoe; 20 stoves, 20 tables and benches. Water supply is piped. Supplies obtainable from several resorts nearby. Elevation 6,800 feet.

Eagle Falls.—Overlooks Emerald Bay 1 mile north of Bay View camp on the south end of Lake Tahoe; 20 stoves, 20 tables and benches. Water supply is piped. Supplies at resort nearby. Elevation 6,600 feet.

Wentworth Springs Road

Big Silver.—Located 33 miles east of Placerville and reached via Wentworth Springs Road, turning south at South Fork Camp; 10 stoves, 10 tables and benches. Creek. Elevation 4,800 feet.

South Fork.—Located 35 miles northeast of Placerville over the Wentworth Springs Road; 10 stoves, 10 tables and benches. Well water. Elevation 5,300 feet.

U S 50—Placerville-Tahoe Road

Alder Creek.—On U S 50, 27 miles east of Placerville; 15 stoves, 15 tables and benches. Water supply from creek. Supplies at Riverton. Elevation 3,500 feet.

Alpine.—Lies between Meyers and Woodfords, 3 miles south of U S 50, reached by turning south just west of Meyers; 12 stoves, 12 tables and benches. Water supply from well. Supplies at Meyers, 5 miles. Elevation 6,650 feet.

Blackbird.—Located 23 miles east of Placerville on the Lake Tahoe road or U S 50; 23 stoves, 23 tables and benches. Water supply from well and pipe line. Supplies at Riverton. Elevation 3,200 feet.

Firs.—Located near Echo Lake, 4 miles west of Meyers on U S 50;

12 stoves, 13 tables and benches. Water supply from well. Nearest supplies at Meyers. Elevation 7,500 feet.

42-Mile Camp.—On U S 50, 11 miles west of Meyers, where supplies are available; 6 stoves, 6 tables and benches. Water supply from spring. Elevation 5,700 feet.

45-Mile Camp.—On U S 50, 10 miles west of Meyers; 6 stoves, 6 tables and benches. Water is piped. Supplies at Meyers. Elevation 6,500 feet.

Eldorado Camp.—Located on U S 50 on the south shore of Lake Tahoe; 92 stoves, 106 tables. Water piped. 12 trailer camps. One-quarter mile of bathing beach. Several stores nearby. Elevation 6,225 feet.



1. The Lincoln Highway in the *Eldorado National Forest*. F-269311
2. Virgin timber in the *Eldorado National Forest*. F-258477
3. Flume carrying water for hydroelectric power production. F-298773
4. Winter fun for the young and old on a ski hill. F-335686
5. In the *Desolation Valley Primitive Area*. F-258473
6. Summer home in the *Eldorado National Forest*. F-179378
7. Silver Lake. F-227821
8. Original inscription cut in 1844 by Kit Carson, famous guide and explorer, in a tree standing south of Silver Lake near the Alpine Highway. F-275533
9. An attractive campground for public use. F-357124
10. A view of Lovers' Leap. F-200720

Location—History—Highways

THE *Eldorado National Forest* lies on the western slope of the Sierra Nevada in Eldorado, Placer, and Amador Counties, California, and extends from the Mokelumne River on the south to the Middle Fork of the American River on the north. Near the south end of Lake Tahoe, a small 400-acre tract of the forest is in Douglas County, Nevada. The total area of the forest is 858,496 acres, of which 588,385 acres are Government land.

Placerville, the "Hangtown" of the days of '49, is the headquarters of the Eldorado National Forest and like the Mother Lode towns of the Bret Harte country, Sonora, Angels Camp, Nevada City, and Jackson, recalls the glamour of California's placer mining days.

Only a short distance from Placerville is Coloma, where stood Sutter's sawmill, newly completed in 1848, on the banks of the South Fork of the American River. Here James Marshall found the sands of gold in the tail-race of the mill and started the gold rush of 1849. His discovery changed the course of history in the West.

The Lincoln Highway from Sacramento to Placerville and Lake Tahoe was the main stage and freight route to the silver mines of Nevada during the boom days of Virginia City. It was over this highway on April 3, 1860, that Harry Roff, the pony express rider, on his snow white horse made the initial 55-mile ride from Sacramento to Placerville in 2 hours and 45 minutes, nearly as fast as the train can make it today and three times as fast as the stagecoach of those days.

Many points of historic interest along the roads in the Eldorado National Forest have been appropriately marked by the Forest Service for the benefit of travelers and vacationists. Where the Carson Pass Highway crosses the summit is the bronze replica of the tree trunk on which Kit Carson carved his name while guiding the Fremont expedition in 1844. This route is older than the Lincoln Highway, and relics of the team emigrants have been found along this pioneer route from Pedlar Hill to Carson Pass. Another inscription by Carson still stands on a living tree south of Silver Lake near the Carson Highway.

Three main highways traverse the Eldorado National Forest.

The *Transcontinental Lincoln Highway*, U S 50, follows the South Fork of American River from Placerville to Lake Tahoe, a distance of 63 miles. A mile west of

Meyers it branches, one fork going to Minden, Nev., by way of Woodfords Canyon, and the other to Carson City, Nev., by way of Glenbrook on the east side of Lake Tahoe. From Meyers another branch of the highway leads around the west side of Lake Tahoe to Tahoe City, thence around the north shore of the lake, and connects with the Carson City Highway northeast of Glenbrook.

The *Carson Pass Highway*, State Highway No. 8, (also known as the Kit Carson Trail) from Jackson to Minden, in the southern part of the forest, follows the summit of a ridge for practically its entire length, passing Silver Lake and crossing the Sierra summit at Carson Pass. This road connects with the Minden Branch of the Lincoln Highway at West Carson River. It is also connected with the Lincoln Highway by the Iron Mountain road between Corral Flat on the Carson Pass Highway and the 14-mile stone near the forest boundary on the Placerville-Lake Tahoe section of the Lincoln Highway.

The Carson Pass Highway follows the summit of a ridge for the greater part of its length and is scenically most attractive. Gas and supplies can be obtained at Pine Grove, Cooks Station, Hams Station, Silver Lake, Plasse Resort, and Twin Lakes.

FIRE PREVENTION

The preservation of the forest, upon which depends such resources as our future lumber supply, streamflow for power, irrigation, and municipal purposes, game and recreation, can be assured only by reducing to a minimum the damage and destruction resulting from forest fires.

Human carelessness causes over 75 percent of the fires which occur each year in California. Many inexperienced mountain travelers are ignorant of the inflammable nature of the forest cover during the summer months, how easily forest fires can be started, how destructive they can be, and how hard they are to control. All visitors are requested to comply strictly with the forest rules for fire prevention, and to cooperate willingly with the Forest Service in preventing and controlling forest fires.

FOREST ADMINISTRATION

The national forests are administered by the Forest Service of the United States Department of Agriculture. The national forests of California and southwestern Nevada compose the California Region, one of the 10 regions into which all the national forests of the United States are grouped. The headquarters of the California region is in the Phelan Building in San Francisco.

A forest supervisor, who has his headquarters in Placerville, is in charge of the Eldorado National Forest. The forest is divided into four districts, under the supervision of district rangers, located at the Georgetown, Pacific, Lake Valley, and Lumberyard Ranger Stations.

All forest officers are glad to give information and be of such assistance to travelers as their regular duties will permit.

Twenty-five percent of the receipts to the Government from the sale or use of national-forest timber, forage, water, and recreation resources is returned to the State for distribution to the counties in which the forests are located, for schools and roads, and an additional 10 percent is expended by the Forest Service for roads and trails. Burned forests pay no dividends.

The *Georgetown Divide Road* from Georgetown to Wentworth Springs, a distance of 50 miles, passes through a heavily timbered country in the northern part of the forest. Beyond Wentworth Springs the road is not passable for automobiles.

This road runs through good fishing country. From Wentworth Springs, the end of the auto road, trips to McKinneys on Lake Tahoe can be made on horseback or on foot. Gas, oil, and supplies can be obtained at Georgetown, Uncle Tom's, Balderstons, 8-Mile House, and Wentworth Springs.

The Forest Service has built 400 miles of road, 580 miles of trail, and 20 bridges in the Eldorado Forest for administrative and protective use and maintains many miles of existing roads and trails, all of which are open to vacationists.

A branch of the Southern Pacific Railroad from Sacramento terminates at Placerville, near the western boundary of the forest.

In the summer, daily stages run between Sacramento and Tahoe City via Placerville, connecting with camps and resorts on the Lincoln Highway and along the west shore of Lake Tahoe.

attractive recreation areas in the State. Lake Tahoe lies on the Sierra divide at an altitude of 6,225 feet, and is 23 miles long and about 13 miles wide. The lake lies in the Tahoe, Eldorado, and Mono National Forests, the interforest boundaries touching the lake at McKinneys and Stateline.

Desolation Valley Wild Area.—Typical mountain and forest areas in California, noted for their scenic and recreational values, have been set apart by the Forest Service for use and enjoyment in their primitive condition.

Such areas will be preserved in a "wild" state in the sense that they will not be developed by road building or other forms of permanent recreational occupancy.

Grazing of livestock will be permitted; and when economic conditions warrant, the orderly utilization of timber, water power, and other resources may be allowed.

The Desolation Valley Wild Area includes 41,380 acres of mountainous country, largely on the headwaters of the Rubicon River. This is a picturesque land of rugged granite peaks and alpine lakes extending from Lake of the Woods northward to Rock Round Lake. On the east lies Fallen Leaf Lake, Mount Tallac, Emerald Bay, and Lake Tahoe, and on the west the Pyramid Range.

This is real wilderness, accessible only by a fine system of Government trails, and offers many opportunities to the sportsman and nature lover. The elevation ranges from 6,500 to over 10,000 feet.

PUBLIC CAMPGROUNDS

For the comfort and convenience of national-forest travelers the Forest Service has established free improved public campgrounds at the following places along the Lincoln Highway.

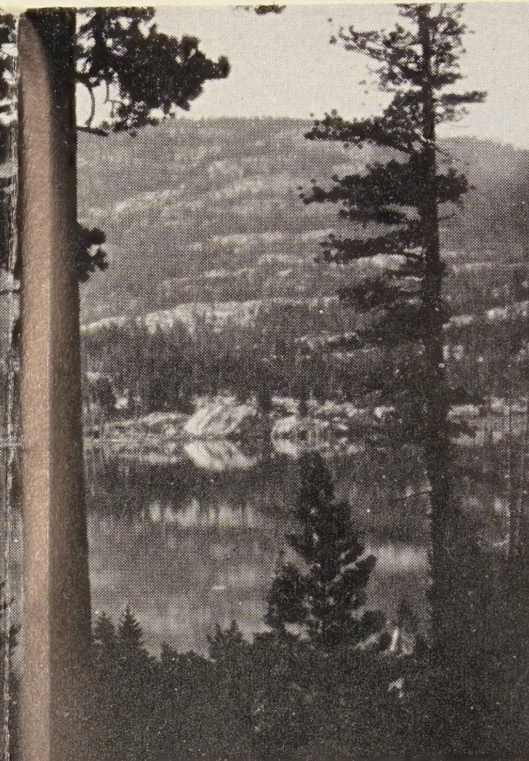
PUBLIC CAMPS AND ACCOMMODATIONS

Carson Road

Kirkwood Lake.—Located 60 miles east of Jackson on the Carson Road near Kirkwood Lake; 15 stoves, 15 tables and benches. Water piped to camp. Supplies at Lake. Elevation 7,300 feet.

Lumberyard.—This camp is located near the ranger station 37 miles east of Jackson on the Carson Pass Road; 10 stoves, 10 tables and benches. Water supply is piped. Supplies at resorts nearby. Elevation 6,500 feet.

Silver Lake.—There are two camp sites on Silver Lake located 50 miles east from Jackson on the Carson Pass Road west of the summit; 35 stoves, 35 tables and benches. Water supply at both camps is piped. Supplies at resort. Elevation 7,200 feet.



Good Manners in the Forest

A good sportsman, camper, or tourist, when he goes into the national forests—

First obtains a campfire permit. Carries a shovel and ax. Smokes only in camp. Puts his fire dead out with water. Leaves a clean and sanitary camp. Observes the State fish and game laws. Cooperates with the forest rangers in reporting and suppressing fires. Preaches what he practices.

DO YOU?

If You Don't Know—Ask a U. S. Forest Ranger.

WHAT TO DO WHEN LOST

If you start out alone on a trip in the mountains always leave word where you are going and what route you are going to take.

The following helpful rules are worth remembering:

1. Stop, sit down, and try to figure out where you are. Use your head, not your legs.
2. If caught by night, fog, or storm, stop at once and make camp in a sheltered spot. Build a fire in a safe place. Gather plenty of dry fuel.
3. Don't wander about. Travel only downhill. Follow water-courses or ridges.
4. In case of injury, choose a cleared spot on a promontory and make a signal smoke if possible. The Forest Service fire lookouts or the observers in airplanes may see your smoke.
5. Don't yell, don't run, don't worry, and DON'T QUIT.

A word from the forest rangers to the new camper, hiker, or vacationist:

It is better to carry a clear head on your shoulders than a big pack on your back. Yet in going alone into the mountains it is well to go prepared for any emergency. A fish line and a few hooks, matches in a waterproof box, a compass, a little concentrated food, and a strong knife should always be carried. A gun may help as a signal, seldom for obtaining food. Above all, keep cool, and the chances are you will come out of the woods on your own feet.

**BE SURE YOUR FIRE IS OUT—
DEAD OUT**

THIS IS YOUR FOREST HELP KEEP IT GREEN

OBSERVE THESE RULES

Free public use of national forests is invited.

Visitors to the Eldorado National Forest are required to observe the following rules:

1. A campfire permit must be secured before building any fire, including fires in stoves burning wood, kerosene, or gasoline, on national-forest land. Permit is also required for a stove in an auto trailer. The nearest forest officer will issue a permit to you without charge, provided you have a regulation size ax and shovel.
2. Every camping party in the national forest must be equipped with a shovel and an ax per vehicle or pack train. Shovel, with blade at least 8 inches wide, and an over all length of 36 inches; ax not less than 26 inches long over all, with head weighing 2 pounds or more. Both of these tools must be in serviceable condition. All campers will be expected to obtain these tools before entering the national forests.
3. During the fire season smoking is prohibited in the national forest, except in camps, places of habitation, and specially posted smoking areas. Smokers are cautioned to be careful to extinguish their lighted matches, cigars, cigarettes, and pipe heels, and to avoid throwing them out of a moving vehicle.
4. In periods of high fire hazard, camping and camp or picnic fires may be restricted to posted campgrounds, and part or all of the national forests may be closed to public use and travel.
5. Build small fires. Clear an area, down to mineral soil, not less than 10 feet in diameter before starting a fire.
6. Never leave a fire unattended without totally extinguishing it with a plentiful supply of water.
7. Keep your camp clean. Where garbage pits and incinerators are not provided, burn or bury all garbage and refuse.
8. Do not pollute the springs, streams, or lakes by unsanitary acts.
9. Observe the State fish and game laws.
10. Drive carefully on mountain roads.

Your cooperation in observing these regulations is requested.

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If you find a forest fire, put it out if you can. If you cannot put it out, report it to the forest supervisor, the ranger, the sheriff, or the nearest telephone operator. Locations of the headquarters of the supervisor and the rangers are indicated on the map.

The Forest Service requires the registration of hunters on the national forests during the open season for the purpose of cooperation in protecting the hunting grounds from fire and for gathering statistical data useful in game management and the propagation of wildlife. Hunters are asked to register at Forest Service stations on the main road.

Ice House.—Located 28 miles east of Placerville. Reached via Camino and Riverton over U S 50, turning northeast at Riverton; 8 stoves, 8 tables and benches. Creek. Supplies at Riverton. Elevation 5,230 feet.

Phillips.—This camp is 6 miles west of Meyers on U S 50; 6 stoves, 6 tables, 6 benches, and piped water. Supplies at Meyers. Elevation 6,250 feet.

Wright's Lake.—About 8 miles north of U S 50; 12 stoves, 19 tables, piped water. Supplies at Placerville. Elevation 7,000 feet.

Several cities have established summer recreation camps in the Eldorado Forest, where their citizens can have a vacation at small expense. Sacramento has one at Sayles Flat on the Lincoln Highway, Stockton has one at Silver Lake on the Carson Pass Highway. Berkeley's camp is at Echo Lake, near Summit on the Lincoln Highway. The Y. M. C. A., Boy Scouts, and the Camp Fire Girls also have leased camp sites on this forest. Municipal and organization camps, however, are not open to the general public.

For those who desire a permanent summer camp, the Forest Service has surveyed and subdivided into lots certain tracts not needed for public recreation. Several hundred attractive cabins and houses have already been built by summer-home permittees among the pines and firs along the main roads. Summer-home permittees are required to erect suitable structures and comply with all sanitation and fire-protection requirements.

Larger sites for municipal camps or for resorts and other commercial uses are available in several localities. For more detailed information write to or call on the forest supervisor at Placerville, Calif., or the nearest district ranger.

Commercial permits are also issued for resorts, stores, and other business developments necessary for the accommodation of the public. Care is exercised to avoid uneconomic competition, and the number of business projects will be in proportion to the public need for any particular service and will not interfere with public recreation. Information concerning summer-home sites and commercial or institutional locations may be obtained from the Forest Supervisor at Placerville, or from the local forest officer.

Winter sports are attracting more persons each year to localities where transportation, accommodations, and topography are favorable for skiing and other sports. Placerville can be reached in the winter via bus lines from Sacramento. U S 50 is usually open to Kyburz. Snow sports areas include the following:

Pacific House.—Elevation 3,400 feet. Location: 18 miles east of Placerville on U S 50. Land ownership: Government and private. Parking: 500 cars along highway. Ski jumps: Class C. Ski lifts: None. Toboggan slides: None. Ski trails: None posted. Clubhouse, free to public. Equipment: Skis and poles rented on area. Instruction: Instructor on area, free. Meals: On area. Lodging: On area. First aid: Placerville. Ranger station: Forest supervisor's headquarters. U. S. Forest Service, Placerville.

FISH AND GAME

Deer are numerous in certain parts of the Eldorado Forest. There are four State game refuges (see map), covering a total area of 170,000 acres within the forest. Game refuge 1-I is located along the Middle Fork of the American River and extends northeastward into the Tahoe Forest; Game refuge 1-O lies between the South Fork of American River, and Big Silver Creek; Game Refuge 1-J is in the southern part of the forest, between the Mokelumne River and the Carson Pass Highway; and the Silver Lake Game Refuge lies north of the Iron Mountain Road and the Alpine Highway in the headwaters of Alder Creek. Hunting in these refuges is strictly forbidden.

At Tallac the State Division of Fish and Game maintains a fish hatchery, from which many of the lakes and streams of the region are stocked.

Guns may be brought into the Eldorado National Forest, but no shooting is permitted in the vicinity of camps or places of habitation.

Dogs are allowed under certain restrictions. In national-forest campgrounds owners must see that their dogs do not interfere with other users. During the open season the State allows one dog per hunter to take deer.

